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RECORD OF POLITICAL EVENTS.

[October 1, 1888, to May 1, 1889.]

DOMESTIC.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.—The election on November 6 resulted in the choice of the Republican candidates, **Benjamin Harrison** and **Levi P. Morton**, for President and Vice-President. The total vote was 11,383,970. The Republican ticket received 5,441,923 votes, and the Democratic 5,536,524. The Democratic plurality on the popular vote was 94,601. The Prohibition vote was 246,406, against 150,369 in 1884; and the Labor vote was 144,608, while in 1884 it was 175,370. The Republicans were successful in every Northern state except Connecticut and New Jersey, and the Republican candidates received 233 electoral votes. The Democratic electoral votes were 168 in number. The contest hinged on the vote of New York, which was carried by the Republicans by 14,373 plurality. The other so-called doubtful states—Indiana, New Jersey and Connecticut—were carried by small pluralities: Indiana, Republican, 2,348; New Jersey, Democratic, 7,149; Connecticut, Democratic, 336.—The Senate in the Fifty-first Congress contains thirty-nine Republicans and thirty-seven Democrats. The Republicans will have a small majority (probably three) in the House of Representatives.—**The Sackville Incident.** A sensation was created by the publication in October of a letter written by Lord Sackville, the British minister at Washington, on September 13, to a stranger in California who had represented himself as a naturalized Englishman, and sought his lordship's advice as to the best course to be pursued in the pending election. Lord Sackville in his reply said: "You are probably aware that any political party which openly favored the mother country at the present moment would lose popularity, and that the party in power is fully aware of this fact. The party, however, is, I believe, still desirous of maintaining friendly relations with Great Britain, and is still desirous of settling all questions with Canada. . . . All allowances must, therefore, be made for the political situation as regards the Presidential election thus created." The demand was instantly made by some newspapers that the minister should be dismissed. Diplomatic correspondence on the subject followed, and on October 30 the secretary of State, by direction of the President, informed Lord Sackville that, "for causes heretofore made known to Her Majesty's government, his continuance in his present official position in the United States is no longer acceptable to this government, and would consequently be detrimental to the relations between the two countries." In a statement made at the time, Secretary Bayard said that the minister's original offence had been aggravated by interviews with him published immediately after the correspondence was made public. He also said: "The question is thus presented whether it is compatible

with the dignity, security and independent sovereignty of the United States to permit the representative of a foreign government in this country not only to receive and answer without disapproval, and confirm by his repetition, aspersions upon its political action, but also to interfere in its domestic affairs by advising persons formerly his countrymen as to their political course as citizens of the United States." After remaining vacant for some time, the post of British minister at Washington was filled by the appointment of Sir Julian Pauncefote, who had been for several years permanent under-secretary of State for the British Foreign office.

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.—President Harrison was inaugurated on March 4. In his inaugural address he said that he looked hopefully to the continuance of the protective system, and the consequent development of manufacturing and mining industries in states hitherto wholly given to agriculture, as a potent influence in the perfect unification of the people. He had "altogether rejected the suggestion of a special executive policy for any section of our country." He recommended that our naturalization laws be so amended as to make the inquiry into the character and good disposition of persons applying for citizenship more careful and searching. He deprecated any attempt by any European government to dominate an interoceanic canal in this hemisphere. "It is quite possible," he said, "to effect the necessary reduction in our revenues without breaking down our protective tariff or seriously injuring any domestic industry." He favored the enlargement of the navy and the encouragement of the establishment of American steamship lines, and declared that our pension laws should give more adequate and discriminating relief to the Union soldiers and sailors and to their widows and orphans. While expressing gratification at the general interest manifested in the reform of the election laws, General Harrison stated that circumstances might make it necessary for the national government to make use of the powers vested in it by the constitution for the control of elections. [See also *The Civil Service*.]—**The Cabinet** was announced on the following day. It is as follows: Secretary of State, James G. Blaine, of Maine; secretary of the Treasury, William Windom, of Minnesota; secretary of War, Redfield Proctor, of Vermont; secretary of the Navy, Benjamin F. Tracy, of New York; secretary of the Interior, John W. Noble, of Missouri; postmaster-general, John Wanamaker, of Pennsylvania; attorney-general, W. H. H. Miller, of Indiana; secretary of Agriculture, Jeremiah Rusk, of Wisconsin. **The other principal appointments** made and confirmed by the Senate were the following: Foreign ministers—England, Robert T. Lincoln, of Illinois; France, Whitelaw Reid, of New York; Russia, Allen Thorndike Rice, of New York; Austria, Frederick D. Grant, of New York; Italy, Albert G. Porter, of Indiana; Spain, Thomas W. Palmer, of Michigan; Sweden and Norway, William W. Thomas, Jr., of Maine; Switzerland, John D. Washburn, of Massachusetts; Denmark, John A. Enander, of Illinois; the Netherlands, Samuel R. Thayer, of Minnesota; Portugal, George B. Loring, of Massachusetts; Belgium, Edwin H. Terrill, of New Hampshire; Japan, John F. Swift, of California; Brazil, Robert Adams, Jr., of Pennsylvania; Chili, Patrick Egan, of Nebraska; Peru, John Hicks, of Wisconsin; Venezuela, William L. Scruggs, of Georgia; Mexico, Thomas Ryan, of Kansas; Central American states, Lansing B. Mizner, of California; Corea,

William O. Bradley, of Kentucky; Colombia, John T. Abbott, of New Hampshire. Assistant secretary of State, William F. Wharton, of Massachusetts; examiner of claims in the State department, Walker Blaine; assistant secretaries of the Treasury, George C. Tichenor, of Illinois, and George S. Batcheller, of New York; first assistant postmaster-general, James S. Clarkson, of Iowa; second assistant postmaster-general, Smith A. Whitfield, of Ohio; third assistant postmaster-general, Abraham D. Hazen, of Pennsylvania; assistant secretaries of the Interior, George Chandler, of Kansas, and Cyrus Bussey, of New York; treasurer of the United States, James N. Huston, of Indiana; commissioner of pensions, James Tanner, of New York; commissioner of internal revenue, John W. Mason, of West Virginia; consul-general at London, John C. New, of Indiana; consul-general at Vienna, Julius Goldschmidt, of Wisconsin; commissioners to the conference at Berlin on Samoan matters, John A. Kasson, of Iowa, William Walter Phelps, of New Jersey, and George H. Bates, of Delaware; delegates to the conference with American governments to be held at Washington, John Henderson, of Missouri, Cornelius N. Bliss, of New York, William Pinckney Whyte, of Maryland, Clement Studebaker, of Indiana, T. Jefferson Coolidge, of Massachusetts, William Henry Trescott, of South Carolina, Andrew Carnegie, of Pennsylvania, John R. G. Pitkin, of Louisiana, Morris M. Estee, of California. The nomination of Murat Halstead, of Ohio, as minister to Germany was rejected by the Senate by a vote of 25 to 19. Robert P. Porter, of New York, was appointed superintendent of the census, Edward S. Lacey, of Michigan, controller of the currency, and ex-Governor William M. Stone, of Iowa, assistant commissioner of the land office. — On March 27 President Harrison issued a proclamation throwing open to settlement that portion of the Indian territory known as **Oklahoma**, the rights to which had been ceded by the Creek Indians to the United States. The proclamation took effect on April 22, when there was a large influx of settlers into the new lands.

THE CLEVELAND ADMINISTRATION. — The closing months of President Cleveland's administration were marked by no specially noteworthy features, apart from those already mentioned in connection with the election. The most important appointments were the following: Norman J. Colman to be secretary of Agriculture; John H. Oberly (civil-service commissioner) to be commissioner of Indian affairs; Perry Belmont to be minister to Spain; Walter L. Bragg¹ to be an interstate-commerce commissioner; Carroll D. Wright¹ to be commissioner of labor; Jesse D. Abrahams to be controller of the currency, and Samuel H. Albro to be superintendent of Indian schools. — It was announced in January that the **International Marine Congress**, which it was at first intended to hold in April, had been put off until autumn. It will be held in Washington on October 16. President Cleveland appointed the following to represent the United States at the congress: Rear-Admiral Samuel B. Franklin, Commander William T. Sampson, Sumner W. Kimball, superintendent of the life-saving service, James W. Norcross, Captain John W. Shackford, William W. Goodrich and Clement A. Griscom. The following nations have accepted invitations to take part in the congress: Great

¹ Reappointed,

Britain, France, Germany, Spain, Italy, Sweden, Norway, the Netherlands, Denmark, Brazil, Chili, Uruguay, Japan, and Hawaii. — A treaty of commerce, amity, and navigation with Japan was signed in February. — **The report of the secretary of the Treasury** showed that the total ordinary revenues of the government for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1888, amounted to \$379,266,074, of which \$219,091,173 was received from customs duties and \$124,296,871 from internal-revenue taxes. The total receipts from all sources exceeded those for the previous year by \$7,862,797. The ordinary expenditures for the year were \$259,653,958, leaving a surplus of \$119,612,116. The decrease in expenditures as compared with the previous year was \$8,278,221, notwithstanding an increase of more than \$5,000,000 for pensions. The estimated revenues for the year ending June 30, 1889, amounted to \$377,000,000; and the estimated ordinary expenditures for the same year were \$273,000,000, leaving an estimated surplus of \$104,000,000. The estimated receipts for the year ending June 30, 1890, were \$377,000,000, and the estimated expenditures, \$275,767,488, showing a surplus of \$101,232,511. These statements of surplus did not take into account the sum necessary to meet the requirements of the Sinking-Fund act, amounting to more than \$47,000,000 annually. The cost of collecting the customs revenues for the year was 2.44 per cent; for 1885 it was 3.77 per cent. The excess of internal-revenue taxes collected during the year over those collected for the previous year was \$5,489,174, and the cost of collecting this revenue decreased from 3.4 per cent in 1887 to less than 3.2 per cent for the last year. The tax collected on oleomargarine was \$723,948 for the year ending June 30, 1887, and \$864,139 for the following year. The purchases of bonds up to November 30 amounted to \$94,700,400, on which \$17,508,613 was paid in premiums. Secretary Fairchild claimed that the actual loss to the people through this transaction was \$55,760,000. The surplus in the Treasury on November 30 was \$52,234,610. Under the Compulsory-Coinage act, silver dollars to the amount of \$312,570,990 had been coined; \$60,970,990 in silver dollars was actually in circulation, and \$237,418,346 in silver certificates. The secretary recommended the suspension of the further coinage of silver. — Satisfactory progress in the work of reconstructing the navy was set forth in the **report of the secretary of the Navy**. Of the ships in course of construction, five — the Charleston, Baltimore, Yorktown, Vesuvius and Petrel — were launched during the year and were rapidly approaching completion; and, in addition, the Philadelphia, the San Francisco, the Newark, the Bennington, the Concord and the Herreshoff torpedo-boat were all under contract for delivery during the present year. — The **secretary of War reported** that the army consisted of 2,189 officers and 24,549 enlisted men, and that the expenditures for the fiscal year were \$41,165,107, of which sum \$9,158,516 was used for public works. — The **report of the postmaster-general** contained many statistics, but few recommendations. The total revenue was \$52,695,176; the expenditures were \$56,885,403, leaving a deficiency of \$4,190,227. The number of post-offices was 57,376 — an increase of 6,124 in three years and of 2,219 in the last year. The number of postmasters appointed during the year was 12,288. — **The report of the secretary of the Interior** set forth that upwards of fifty million acres had been added to the public domain

through the forfeiture of railroad land-grants and the restoration of railroad indemnity lands, and nearly thirty million acres through the cancelling of private entries on account of abandonment, illegality and other causes. The commissioner of the land office recommended the recovery of 65,000,000 acres more. The public revenue from the sale of lands was unusually great, amounting to \$13,500,000. — The most interesting feature of the **attorney-general's report** was the statement that polygamy within the United States was virtually at an end, six hundred convictions having been secured since March, 1885. — **The report of the commissioner of internal revenue**, for the year ending June 30, showed that the total receipts were \$125,326,475 — an increase of \$5,489,174 over the previous year, and the largest amount collected since 1883. — An interesting **report on the statistics of marriage and divorce** was submitted to Congress, in February, by Carroll D. Wright, commissioner of labor. The total number of divorces granted in the United States in the twenty years from 1867 to 1886 was 328,716. — The second **report of the interstate-commerce commission** declared that unreasonably low rates were often made for stock-jobbing purposes; that present profits were sacrificed in a speculative desire to get unreasonable profits in the future; that wars commenced for self-interest were carried on under the incentive of passion or pride; that the rate-making power was often committed to subordinates whose training and experience had not fitted them for so delicate a task; and it was implied that, in the absence of pooling and of a general consolidation, the railroads should endeavor to work harmoniously, and that the public must look forward to some general legislation on the subject, which will become "imperative unless a great improvement in the existing condition of things is voluntarily inaugurated."

THE WORK OF CONGRESS. — The first session of the Fiftieth Congress came to an end on October 20, having lasted 321 days — the longest session in the history of the country. After the last RECORD¹ closed little of importance was done beyond the presentation in the Senate of a substitute for the House Tariff bill. The main provisions of the substitute will be found under Revenue Reform (page 359). During the session there were 15,252 measures introduced into the two houses — 3,644 in the Senate and 11,608 in the House of Representatives. Of the nearly 1,300 nominations sent to the Senate by the President, only three were rejected and only thirty-six were left on the calendar without being acted upon. The second session began on December 3 and expired on March 4. The total number of bills and joint resolutions introduced during the two sessions was 17,059. In the House there were 12,659 bills and 268 joint resolutions proposed, and in the Senate 3,988 bills and 144 resolutions. Of all the bills and resolutions, 1,791 became laws. The President wrote 146 veto messages. — **President Cleveland's Message.** The principal event of interest in connection with the opening of the second session was the presentation of President Cleveland's last message. The message was, in a sense, a continuation of that of 1887, following out the arguments then presented by an attempt to show the effects of high tariff on the legislation and economical condition of the country. The President said that the

¹ See *New Princeton Review* for November, 1888, pp. 392-411.

principle of equal and exact justice which underlies our institutions should be applied to the relations between the government and the citizens. There should be no discrimination on the part of the government in its treatment of citizens. The century just closing had enormously increased the wealth of the country, but this increase was not based on the principle of equality. Fortunes realized by manufacturers were no longer solely the result of individual skill and insight ; they were contributed to by the favorable discrimination of the government. Instead of limiting the burden of taxation to the necessary cost of administration, the government exacted unnecessary millions, which were accumulating in the treasury. The government had entered gratuitously into partnership with a class of citizens, and was taxing for their benefit all other classes. It had become the instrument through which individual advantages were granted, and communism of capital had become a real danger. What was needed was a just revision of the tariff. The necessity for this revision was generally conceded, but the question of means had opened a controversy which must go on until "a plan is perfected, fair and conservative toward existing industries, but which will reduce the cost to the consumers of the necessities of life, while it provides for our manufacturers the advantage of freer raw materials, and permits no injury to the interests of American labor." The growth of the feeling that private individuals may look to the government for relief had resulted in the postponement of needed legislation in many directions. Among these was the necessity of relieving the pressure of business on the Supreme Court, of amending and changing the laws relating to public lands, and of a revision of the pension laws upon just principles. The message reviewed foreign relations, summarized the reports of the various departments, and urged legislation with regard to land grants, pensions, the consular service, the naturalization laws, *etc.* — **New States.** The most important act passed is undoubtedly that providing for the admission to the Union of the states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington and Montana. There was a good deal of opposition to the measure in the House, some of the Democratic members insisting that New Mexico should be admitted along with the territories named. The bill was finally passed in both branches on February 20, and President Cleveland signalized Washington's birthday by affixing his signature to it on that day. The bill provided that on April 15 the governor of each of the territories should order an election of delegates to a constitutional convention, to be held on May 14. These conventions are to provide for the submission of state constitutions to a vote of the people on October 8, after which the states are to be admitted on proclamation by the President. South Dakota is to have two representatives in Congress ; the other states one each. — **Department of Agriculture.** The bill elevating the department of Agriculture to the rank of a cabinet department, and making its chief officer secretary of Agriculture, was passed by both houses at the beginning of February, and on the 11th the President approved it and nominated as the first secretary of Agriculture the Hon. Norman J. Colman, of Missouri, who had held the office of commissioner of agriculture since 1885. The nomination was confirmed without opposition. — **The Direct-Tax bill** was passed by the House, in an amended form, on December 12, by a vote of 178 to 96, all the negative votes being cast by

Democrats. After being submitted to a conference committee, it was again passed in both branches, the vote in the House being 168 to 88. On March 2 the President vetoed the bill on the ground of unconstitutionality. He declared that the proposed distribution to the states of the \$17,000,000 raised by the direct tax of 1861 was a "sheer bald gratuity" from the general government to the state governments. The Senate promptly passed the bill over the veto by a vote of 45 to 9; in the House no action was taken. — The **Extradition Treaty with Great Britain** was rejected by the Senate on February 1 by a vote of 38 nays to 15 yeas. Ten Democrats and five Republicans voted in favor of ratifying the treaty. — A bill providing for taking the eleventh and subsequent censuses was passed. — An important bill which failed to become a law was that creating the territory of Oklahoma out of the western half of the Indian territory and the public-land strip. The bill passed the House on February 1 by a vote of 148 to 102. The Senate took no action. — The long-delayed Smalls-Elliott contested election case was finally decided on February 13, in favor of Elliott (Democrat). The resolution declaring that Smalls was elected in the seventh district of South Carolina was defeated by a vote of 126 to 143. — The House committee (Mr. Ford chairman) which investigated the subject of immigration made a report on January 19. It presented a bill for the regulation of immigration, but no action was taken. — A number of important bills **failed to become laws**. Among these may be mentioned the Blair Educational bill, the International-Copyright bill, a River-and-Harbor bill appropriating nearly \$12,000,000, a bill (introduced by Senator Sherman) providing for federal supervision over congressional elections, and the Dependent-Pension bill. An amendment to the Consular-and-Diplomatic-Appropriation bill, changing the title of the diplomatic representatives of the United States at London, Paris, Berlin and St. Petersburg from ministers to ambassadors, was adopted by the Senate on January 29, but the action was afterwards rescinded. — A pension of \$2,500 per annum was provided for the widow of General Sheridan. — A joint resolution aimed to promote commercial union with Canada was passed by the House on March 1. It made provision for the appointment by the President of commissioners to meet representatives of the Dominion government for the purpose of drafting plans for the assimilation of the duties and internal-revenue taxes of the two countries and an equitable division of receipts. This action was to be taken in case Canada should desire to establish commercial union with this country.

REVENUE REFORM. — A substitute for the Tariff bill passed by the House of Representatives was reported to the Senate by the committee on finance on October 3. It was practically a new bill. It proposed to reduce the duty on sugar about one-half; it repealed the tax on manufactured tobacco and snuff and reduced the tax on cigars and cigarettes; it put alcohol used in the arts on the free list; it increased the duties on some of the finer grades of wool. Forty-two articles were added to the free list, including jute, jute butts, bristles and feathers. *Ad-valorem* duties were substituted for specific duties as far as possible. The estimated reduction in the revenue under the operations of this bill was about \$74,000,000; including \$28,000,000 on sugar, \$24,000,000 on tobacco, \$7,000,000 on alcohol, \$6,500,000 by additions to the

free list and \$8,000,000 by reduction of customs duties. The most important amendment made by the Senate was one providing for a bounty on sugar. The bounty allowed was one cent per pound on sugar produced from beets, sorghum or sugar-cane grown in the United States. This was violently opposed by the Democratic senators; it was adopted on January 18 by the strict party vote of 27 to 23. The substitute itself was passed on January 22 by the votes of 32 Republican senators against 30 Democrats. On being reported to the House, it was referred to the committee on ways and means. The committee applied to the Treasury department for an estimate of the relative effect upon the revenue of the original bill and the substitute. The computation on this point was reported as follows on February 12: Reduction by House bill — customs, \$50,350,345; internal revenue, \$17,610,234; total, \$67,960,579; by Senate substitute — customs, \$13,976,887; internal revenue, \$33,905,780; total, \$47,882,667. Rather significant action was taken by the House on January 14, when a revenue bill introduced by Mr. Cowles, of North Carolina, was referred, not to the committee on ways and means, but to the committee on appropriations, of which Mr. Randall was chairman. The vote on the question of reference was 129 to 91, more than twenty Democrats being recorded in the affirmative. The Cowles bill proposed to abolish all taxes on tobacco, and thus to reduce the revenue about \$30,000,000. On February 15 the committee on ways and means presented a report on the Senate substitute for the House bill (commonly known as the Mills bill). The report reviewed the entire subject of revenue reform. It was accompanied with a resolution declaring that the Senate, in substituting under the form of an amendment to the Mills bill another and different bill containing a general revision of the laws relating to the imposition of customs duties and internal taxes, had violated section 7, article i, of the constitution, which gives to the House the sole power to originate bills of this sort. Subsequently there were reported from the ways and means committee two modifications of the Mills bill. The estimated reduction by one of them was \$72,000,000, and by the other \$41,730,000. Two reports were made at the same time on the Cowles bill by the committee on appropriations. The last action taken on the subject by the House was on February 22, when there was a fair and square contest between Chairman Mills and Chairman Randall. Mr. Mills moved the consideration of his resolution rebuking the Senate for doing an unconstitutional thing in preparing a substitute for the House bill. Mr. Randall objected, desiring to secure precedence for the Cowles bill. Mr. Mills's motion was defeated, the vote being 88 to 143; twenty-nine Democrats were recorded in the negative. By means of filibustering and obstruction, the Cowles bill was prevented from being brought before the House, and the session expired without anything further being done. — President Cleveland wrote to the Massachusetts tariff-reform league on December 24, expressing cordial sympathy with the objects of that society. "This reform appears to me," he said, "as far-reaching in its purposes as the destiny of our country, and as broad in its beneficence as the welfare of our entire people." In declining an invitation to attend the session of the national tariff-reform league, held at Chicago on February 19, Mr. Cleveland wrote: "The declared purposes of your league will not be attained until all those interested

in the economic question which is now pressed upon their attention are freed from all sophistries and clouding fallacies, and until the subject of tariff reform is presented to them as a topic involving the relief of the plain people of the land in their homes from useless and unjust expense."

THE CIVIL SERVICE.—Great interest was felt by every friend of civil-service reform in President Harrison's first utterances on the subject. What he said in his inaugural address was not considered altogether satisfactory. He declared that "honorable party service will certainly not be esteemed by me a disqualification for public office. But it will in no case be allowed to serve as a shield of official negligence, incompetency or delinquency. It is entirely creditable to seek public office by proper methods and with proper motives, and all applicants will be treated with consideration. But I shall need, and the heads of departments will need, time for inquiry and deliberation. Persistent importunity will not, therefore, be the best support of an application for office. Heads of departments, bureaus and all other public officers having any duty connected therewith, will be expected to enforce the Civil-Service law fully and without evasion. Beyond this obvious duty, I hope to do something more to advance the reform of the civil service. The ideal, or even my own ideal, I shall probably not attain. Retrospect will be a safer basis of judgment than promises. We shall not, however, I am sure, be able to put our civil service upon a non-partisan basis until we have secured an incumbency that fair-minded men of the opposition will approve for impartiality and integrity. As the number of such in the civil list is increased, removals from office will diminish."—The committee (Senator Hale chairman) appointed by the Senate to investigate the civil service under the Cleveland administration presented a majority report on October 10. The Republican members, in summing up the results of their inquiries, declared that partisan changes had been made in the federal offices in a wholesale way, under no pretence that the good of the public service demanded such changes; that federal officials throughout the country, contrary to the directions of the President as found in his letter of July 14, 1886, had freely and openly participated in political conventions and primary-election movements, using their official influence; that the system of levying tolls and assessments upon federal office-holders for political purposes had continued without interruption since the administration came into place. It was also asserted that the principles laid down by the President had been grossly violated by Mr. Cleveland and members of his cabinet in "their alleged and uncontradicted subscriptions of large sums to the Democratic national committee." The report of the minority of the committee was presented on October 20. It criticised the course of the majority in limiting the inquiry to the Cleveland administration, and claimed that all the evils and abuses complained of were an inheritance from previous administrations. "Intelligent men will realize and honest men will admit that to-day, after nearly four years of Democratic rule, there are ten Republicans holding office and drawing pay from the federal treasury where there was one Democrat in the service on the 4th of March, 1885. Under a Democratic administration it is not to be wondered at, if, conditions being equal, preference has been given to Democratic applicants for office."—Nothing was said on the subject of civil-

service reform in President Cleveland's last message; but on December 9 he directed the civil-service commission to include in the classified service the employees in the railway-mail service. This step had been contemplated for some time, and there was considerable adverse criticism of the President because it was taken so late in his administration. Subsequently rules governing changes in the railway-mail service were prepared by the commission and approved by the President. One significant feature of the rules was that the reason for every removal should be reported to the commission. The rules were ordered by President Harrison to go into effect on May 1. — Some surprise was caused when it was made known on February 9 that Civil-Service Commissioner Alfred P. Edgerton had been removed by the President. To the vacancy thus created Hugh S. Thompson, assistant secretary of the Treasury, was nominated. The nomination was not confirmed. — There was a lively debate in the House of Representatives on December 17 over a motion to strike from an appropriation bill the items for the salaries of the civil-service commissioners. The vote on the motion was 25 yeas (all Democrats) to 138 nays. — In February the general subject of the reform was debated in the Senate on a motion to provide the commission with two more clerks than had been allowed by the committee on appropriations. In the course of the debate, Senator Hawley made an important statement in regard to the scope of the reform. He said that when the Civil-Service law went into operation, in 1883, there were subject to examination in the executive departments at Washington 5,652 persons; in the customs districts, 2,573; and in the post-offices, 5,699 — in all not quite 14,000. The system had been extended so that there were in the departments nearly 9,000; in the customs districts, 2,298; in the post-offices, about 11,000; and in the railway-mail service, 5,320 — in all 27,618, almost exactly doubling the number of persons subject to examination. — A gathering of civil-service reformers took place in Baltimore on February 22. The resolutions which were adopted pledged to the President-elect hearty co-operation and support in his efforts to promote civil-service reform; declared that the true purpose of the law forbade the removal of officers in the classified service, under any pretext, for political or partisan reasons; asserted that in the unclassified service appointments and removals should be made solely with a view to promote the welfare of the whole people; favored the repeal of all laws which require the appointment of non-political officers for fixed terms; urged the passage of a law requiring reasons for removals to be set forth; recommended that the Senate should consider all nominations in open session; and deprecated attempts by members of the legislative departments to control or influence the President's discretion in the matter of appointments. — Some stir was caused in October by the publication of an order issued by General S. V. Benet, chief of ordnance, on January 4, 1886, to the effect that in the arsenals and armories, "in employing or discharging employees of all grades, other things being equal and qualifications satisfactory, Democrats will be favored; the object being to divide the force in the different grades gradually between Democrats and Republicans. This rule will apply to women and children as well as to men, and will be strictly enforced." This order was pronounced by the executive committee of the New York civil-service reform association "a violation

of the principle which should govern appointments in the public service." The matter was debated in the Senate, and full information regarding the Benet order was demanded from the secretary of War. — The report of the New York state civil-service commission, made in March, declared that during the year there had been steady and sure progress in the reform of the civil service. The suggestion was offered that penalties for violations of the civil-service statutes and regulations should be provided by the legislature.

LABOR TROUBLES. — The number of strikes in the seven months under review has been comparatively small. They have been mainly confined to street-car employees. Early in October some 2,500 men quit work on car lines in Chicago; the trouble lasted about ten days. It was settled by a slight increase in wages, but not so much as had been demanded. There was a general strike of street-car men in New York and on a number of lines in Brooklyn at the end of January. It was not based on a question of wages so much as on the demand of the men that their organization should be recognized by the officers of the companies. Serious disturbances were threatened, but the police were able to keep the disorderly crowds under control. One striker was shot and killed. The difficulty was settled by the employees yielding and the companies taking them back. — The scheme to amalgamate all labor organizations connected with the railroad service of the country was consummated at Richmond, Virginia, in October. The new organization was denominated the "National Federation of Railroad Employees in the Transportation Department." It embraces conductors, engineers, firemen, switchmen and brakemen. — **Knights of Labor.** The eleventh annual general assembly of the Knights of Labor was held in Indianapolis, beginning November 13. The startling statement was made by the treasurer that the membership had decreased about 300,000 in the last fiscal year, and that the balance on hand on November 1 was only \$46, while there were bills unpaid at that date amounting to \$3,687. He recommended a reduction of \$25,000 in the expenses of the order by the abolition of mileage paid to representatives, the consolidation of the offices of general secretary and general treasurer, and the reduction of the general executive board to not more than five members. Mr. Powderly at first refused to consent to a re-election as general master workman, but finally yielded on condition that he should have a controlling voice in the selection of the general executive board. He was elected by 114 votes, only 27 being cast for other candidates. He then nominated eight candidates for the general executive board, of whom the assembly selected four; these with himself make up the board. Morris L. Wheat was elected general worthy foreman, and John W. Hayes general secretary-treasurer. Mr. Powderly stated to the assembly that, though his salary had been left at \$5,000, he would only accept \$3,000. Cardinal Simeoni, prefect of the Propaganda, sent to Cardinal Gibbons, in November, a communication stating that, "so far as at present appears, the association of the Knights of Labor can for the moment be tolerated." — **Federation of Labor.** The annual convention of the American Federation of Labor opened at St. Louis on December 11. In his opening address President Gompers condemned the men who were continually decrying strikes, and advocated shorter hours of labor. He urged the formation of eight-hour leagues in every city and town in the

country, and said that trades unions and labor unions should be represented in them. He denounced the conduct of the Knights of Labor, and was particularly severe on Mr. Powderly for his conduct in the matter of bringing about harmony of action between the federation and the knights. The federation elected these officers: President, Samuel Gompers; vice-presidents, Daniel McLaughlin and William Martin; secretary, P. J. McGuire; treasurer, Henry Emrich; trustees, Hugo Miller, August Delabar and Josiah P. Dyer. — At the end of December and the beginning of January conferences were held to secure a settlement of the strike on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad, which took place in February, 1888. The company finally consented not to follow up, blacklist or in any manner attempt to proscribe those who were concerned in the strike, but in all proper ways to assist them in securing employment; and when it became necessary to go outside of its own service for men in any capacity, it agreed not to exclude those who engaged in the strike, provided they had not been guilty of violence or other improper conduct. The annual report of the company showed a deficit of \$4,331,425, which was chiefly attributed to the strike. — The supreme court of Pennsylvania decided on November 5 that the Mechanics'-Lien law was unconstitutional. — On March 11 some 6,000 weavers in the mills at Fall River, Massachusetts, went on strike for an advance of wages. They soon returned to work without accomplishing their object.

THE INDIANS. — President Cleveland, in his message, said that the condition of the Indians continued to improve and that the substitution of enlightenment and education for barbarism was making favorable progress. He urged the extension of facilities of education to all teachable Indian youth of both sexes. The number of these was estimated at 40,000, while the total enrolment in the schools was only 15,212. In regard to the Apache prisoners, he said that he was not at all in sympathy with the benevolent, but injudicious, persons who constantly insisted that they should be returned to their reservation. He was convinced that they should be kept in restraint far from their former haunts. There were 382 of them, in all, at Mount Vernon barracks, Alabama. — The report of the secretary of the Interior stated that the **total number of Indians**, according to the incomplete census taken, was 246,005. The entire territory reserved for them was 112,413,440 acres — equivalent to an average of 456 acres for each Indian. The expense of maintaining the 213 Indian schools for the year was \$1,203,748. — The annual report of John H. Oberly, commissioner of Indian affairs, was not made until about the middle of January. He favored the extension of the provisions of the Civil-Service law to the Indian service. — A delegation of Sioux chiefs and sub-chiefs visited Washington in October to present to the President their objections to the law providing for the relinquishment of 11,000,000 acres of their reservation. The President and the secretary of the Interior were willing to recommend that \$1 per acre be paid for this land, but the chiefs, by a large majority, insisted on having \$1.25. — On April 26 the Rev. Dr. Daniel Dorchester, of Boston, was appointed superintendent of Indian schools,

COURT DECISIONS AND TRIALS. — Melville W. Fuller took the oath of office as chief justice of the United States on October 8. — The supreme court of Utah on October 8 entered a final decree declaring the dis-

solution of the Mormon church as a corporation, and decreeing that all its property should become escheated to the government for school purposes in Utah. — It was decided by the United States circuit court at San Francisco on October 15 that the Chinese Exclusion act was constitutional, and that it applied to Chinese then in port on shipboard, to those on the way from China and to those still in China. — The disputed clauses in the will of Samuel J. Tilden, providing for the establishment of a free library in the city of New York, were held to be valid by a decision of the New York supreme court on October 22. — The United States Supreme Court on October 22 sustained the constitutionality of the Prohibition law of Iowa. — On the same day a decision was rendered upholding the constitutionality of the law of Alabama which forbids railroads to employ persons affected with color-blindness and defective vision. — On October 29 the same court declared unconstitutional all state laws imposing a license tax on commercial travellers not residents of the state imposing the tax. — United States Circuit Judge Sawyer decided at San Francisco, on November 9, that Chinamen born in the United States are citizens. — In the case of the United States against the American Bell Telephone Company, a decision in favor of the government was rendered by the United States Supreme Court on November 12. The decision swept aside the pleas by which the telephone company sought to prevent the trial of the suit brought by the government for a cancellation of the Bell patents. The suit was remanded to the circuit court of Massachusetts for a trial on its merits. — In the Fiske will case, the New York court of appeals decided on November 27 that the bequest of \$1,500,000 to Cornell University was invalid, on the ground that the charter of the University forbade it to hold property above the value of \$3,000,000, and that at Mrs. Fiske's death this aggregate had been exceeded. — The Iowa supreme court, in a case decided on December 21, held that any liquor containing alcohol, no matter how diluted, is intoxicating. Literally followed, this would prevent the sale of vinegar in that state. — In December the Chicago anarchists applied to the courts for an injunction restraining the police from interfering with their meetings. The matter attracted considerable attention. The injunction was not granted, but the court held that the police had no right to prevent the holding of a meeting on the ground of a suspicion that incendiary utterances might be made. — An important decision was rendered by Judge Barrett, of the New York supreme court, on January 9, to the effect that the sugar trust was unlawful and in restraint of trade. The case came up on the application of the attorney-general of the state for the forfeiture of the charter of the North-River sugar-refining company, a member of the trust. The court held that the application must be granted. — A decision rendered by the United States Supreme Court on January 21 in reference to American and foreign patents was considered of great importance. The point involved was the effect which a foreign patent has on an American patent subsequently granted to the same inventor. It was held that the American patent should extend for fifteen years, independently of the duration of the foreign patent. — **New York Bribery Cases.** A new trial was granted by the court of appeals on October 2 to ex-Alderman Arthur J. McQuade, who was sent to prison for bribery for a term of seven years and ordered to pay a fine of \$5,000. On February 11 the venue of the trial of

McQuade was changed to Saratoga county, it being alleged that a jury could not be obtained in New York city. On November 12 the Supreme Court of the United States refused to interfere in the case of ex-Alderman Jaehne, convicted of bribery. Jaehne's counsel claimed that the sentence was wrongly imposed on the ground that the sections of the law under which the sentence was imposed were *ex post facto*. In the second trial of ex-Alderman Cleary a change of venue to Broome county was granted on January 30. The second trial of Thomas B. Kerr, accused of bribing the aldermen, took place in March and resulted in his acquittal.

TEMPERANCE REFORM. — The new Iowa Liquor law went fully into effect on October 1. Under it, liquors can be sold only by registered pharmacists, and the restrictions imposed on them are very severe. — The legislature of Rhode Island voted in March to re-submit to popular vote the prohibitory amendment to the constitution. This became an important issue in the state election in April. — The Indiana legislature took a step in the direction of high license by passing a bill repealing the law which forbade a higher license fee than \$100, and substituting a \$250 standard. — In New Jersey an act was passed by the legislature repealing the county-option portion of the law passed in 1888. — The question of temperance legislation attracted a good deal of attention in the New York legislature. A commission constituted by the legislature of the previous year prepared a careful revision of the excise laws, and reported a general substitute for all then existing measures. It fixed the fee for a full saloon license at from \$300 to \$500 in cities and from \$100 to \$200 in villages; and the fee for a saloon license for the sale of beer, ales, and wines was fixed at from \$60 to \$150 in cities and from \$40 to \$100 in villages. The report was the result of a compromise between the members of the commission, who represented various shades of opinion on the subject of liquor legislation, and was not regarded as satisfactory by most of the interests concerned. With the license fees slightly increased the bill was passed by the Assembly on April 3 by a vote of 69 to 53. The Senate passed the bill April 25, by a vote of 17 to 14. Its veto by the governor was expected on May 1. — Constitutional amendments providing for prohibition were rejected by West Virginia in November, by New Hampshire in March and by Massachusetts in April. The Connecticut legislature voted in April to submit a prohibitory amendment to the people.

STATE LEGISLATION. — The counting in November of the votes cast in April, 1888, on the constitutional amendment in Rhode Island showed that it had been adopted. The amendment enfranchises citizens of foreign birth and abolishes the property qualification for voting for general officers. — The question of ballot reform has been before a considerable number of the legislatures. In Indiana a law was enacted which is pronounced the most complete yet adopted in this country. It divides the state into election precincts of 200 voters each, the number in no case to exceed 250. In other respects the principles of the Australian system are applied. It is provided that independent nominations may be made by means of petitions or nomination papers, the signatures of 500 qualified electors being necessary for the nomination to a state office, 200 for member of Congress, 25 for member of the legislature or officer of a county, and 20 for officer of a township, ward, or

other division less than a county. A ballot-reform bill was rejected by the Maine legislature. In Rhode Island, Wisconsin, Tennessee and Montana bills based on the Australian system became laws. In New York a bill similar to that passed and vetoed the previous year was again passed by Republican votes, but its approval by Governor Hill is very doubtful. — Several amendments to the constitution of New Hampshire were adopted in March. The most important of these provided for the meeting of the legislature in January instead of June; this will prevent the interregnum which occurs in the United States senatorship at the expiration of every term. Another amendment fixed a salary for members of the legislature in lieu of a *per-diem* compensation. — A law passed by the Indiana legislature permits any person, when an attempt is made in any way to influence his vote, to institute a suit for damages; upon proof of the charges he may recover \$500.

STATE ELECTIONS. — Elections were held in most of the states on November 6. — In New York Governor Hill (Dem.) was re-elected by a plurality of 19,171. — In Massachusetts Governor Ames (Rep.) was re-elected by over 28,000 plurality. — In Connecticut Morris, the Democratic candidate for governor, received a plurality of 1,415, but not having a majority of the votes cast, the election was thrown into the legislature, which chose the Republican candidate, Morgan J. Bulkeley. — A peculiar condition of things arose in West Virginia. General Nathan Goff, the Republican candidate for governor, received a small majority, but the legislature refused to perform its duty of "opening and publishing the returns." On March 1 General Goff qualified as governor and expressed a purpose to obtain his rights. At the same time, R. S. Carr, the president of the Senate, took the oath of office as governor, on the ground that a vacancy existed and he was entitled to fill it. Meanwhile Governor Wilson held on to his office, claiming that his successor had not been chosen. General Goff appealed to the courts, which refused to interfere, and held that the legislature was beyond their control. The courts subsequently decided that Carr had no claim to the office, thus leaving Wilson in undisputed possession. — In Delaware a Republican legislature was chosen, which elected the first Republican senator who ever represented that state. — The election in Rhode Island in April resulted in the choice of Republican state officers, with the exception of the attorney-general.

THE WASHINGTON CENTENNIAL. — The centenary of the inauguration of Washington as President of the United States was celebrated in New York on April 29 and 30 and May 1. There were large and successful marine, military and industrial parades, a brilliant ball and a centennial banquet. The literary exercises took place on April 30 in Wall street, close to the spot where the first inauguration ceremonies were held. They consisted of a prayer by the Rev. Dr. R. S. Storrs, a poem written by John G. Whittier, an oration by the Hon. Chauncey M. Depew and a brief address by President Harrison. The centennial festivities were witnessed by the greatest number of persons ever assembled in New York city.

OBITUARY. — Richard A. Elmer, formerly second assistant postmaster-general, October 2; the Right Rev. E. R. Welles, bishop of the Protestant Episcopal diocese of Milwaukee, October 16; General James Craig, once a member of Congress, October 20; William T. Hamilton, ex-senator of the

United States and ex-governor of Maryland, October 26; Rear-Admiral Charles H. Baldwin, November 17; Rear-Admiral Edward Simpson, December 1; Major-General Romeyn B. Ayres, December 4; Rear-Admiral William E. Le Roy, December 10; Rear-Admiral Chandler, February 10; Francis Wharton, solicitor of the State department and a well-known authority on international law, February 21; John W. Johnston, ex-senator of the United States, February 27; John Ericsson, the well-known inventor and the designer of the famous *Monitor*, March 8; Admiral John Lee Davis, March 12; John Archibald Campbell, ex-justice of the United States Supreme Court, March 13; Stanley Matthews, associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, March 22; Rear-Admiral Thomas H. Patterson, April 9; John P. Usher, ex-secretary of the Interior, April 13; Rear-Admiral William Rogers Taylor, April 14; Henry G. Pearson, postmaster of New York city, April 20; F. A. P. Barnard, LL.D., president of Columbia college, April 27; Wm. H. Barnum, ex-senator of the United States, April 30.

FOREIGN.

GREAT BRITAIN.—**The Parnell Commission.** The commission appointed to investigate the charges made by the London *Times* that Mr. Parnell and other Irish members of Parliament had been implicated in crimes committed in Ireland, began its hearings on October 23. It was composed of Sir James Hannen and Justices Day and Smith. The opening address of Sir Richard Webster, the attorney-general, who acted as counsel for the *Times*, occupied five days. A great deal of time was consumed in presenting testimony in regard to outrages in Ireland, with no attempt to connect Mr. Parnell or any of his associates with these affairs. Some of the Irish newspapers criticised the commission severely, and on November 21 Edward Harrington, M.P., was fined £500 on account of an abusive article which appeared in his paper, the *Kerry Sentinel*. Subsequently William O'Brien was taken to task for speaking of "the forgeries commission" in *United Ireland*, but he escaped with a warning. On February 5 the attorney-general announced that he had completed the Irish part of the case and would take up the American part. The testimony on this point was mainly given by one Major Le Caron, who had been employed by the British government to act as a spy and ascertain the secrets of the Fenian and other Irish societies in the United States. As against Mr. Parnell and other members of Parliament his testimony was of no value. The heart of the case was reached about the middle of February, when the subject of the alleged Parnell letters was taken up. It appeared from the testimony offered by representatives of the *Times* that the letters were obtained from Richard Pigott. Pigott was put upon the stand. Under cross-examination he admitted that he had been a blackmailer for twenty years, and it was made clear that he was an expert and unscrupulous scoundrel. It was expected that a confession would be forced from him to the effect that he had forged the letters, but when the commission met on February 26, it was announced that he had fled, leaving behind him a full confession of his crime. Nothing was definitely known as to his movements for two days, but on February 28 word came that he had been arrested in Madrid and had committed suicide. The attorney-general

withdrew the letters from the case and the *Times* expressed "regret, most fully and sincerely, at having been induced to publish the letters as Mr. Parnell's or to use them in evidence against him. This expression of regret," it added, "includes also the letters falsely attributed to Mr. Egan, Mr. Davitt and Mr. O'Kelly." It affirmed that it "firmly believed the letters were genuine until the disclosures made by Pigott on cross-examination." It was believed by many that the withdrawal of the letters would be followed by a discontinuance of the investigation; and the opposition press even called for the resignation of the cabinet. Lord Salisbury, however, in a speech on March 19, declared that the government had no interest in the letters, and that the commission had been appointed to consider far wider and more important charges. The commission continued its sessions, but nothing of importance was elicited. On March 13 Attorney-General Webster announced that the case for the *Times* was finished, and the commission adjourned until April 2. At that time the case for the Parnellites was opened by Sir Charles Russell. He made a masterly address, which was not finished until April 12, when the commission adjourned until the 30th. Mr. Parnell's testimony was begun on that day. He emphatically disavowed any connection or sympathy with violent or illegal methods. The question of the attorney-general's conduct came up in the House of Commons on March 22, when a motion to reduce his salary as a mark of want of confidence was rejected—286 to 206. Mr. Parnell's suit against the *Times* for libel, brought in the Scotch courts, was dismissed on February 26. His suit in the English courts for £100,000 damages will, it is said, be pushed to trial in the autumn.—**Parliament** met on November 6 and continued in session until December 24, when it was prorogued. The most important action at the autumn session was the passage of a bill extending the operations of the Ashbourne Land-Purchase act, by the expenditure of another £5,000,000. Under this act, Irish tenant farmers may acquire title to their holdings by purchase, the money being loaned by the government under certain conditions. Mr. Gladstone moved as an amendment to the government's proposal that the Land law of 1887 be extended so as to reduce or cancel arrears of rent, but the motion was rejected—330 to 246. The bill was passed by a vote of 202 to 141.—During the debate on November 26 David Sheehy, Nationalist member for North Galway, stated that he had been summoned into the lobby by a visitor, whereupon a summons under the Coercion act had been served on him. He denounced this as an audacious breach of privilege. Mr. Balfour, chief secretary for Ireland, deplored the incident and said that he entirely disapproved of such acts. A committee was appointed to make an inquiry. The committee reported that the Irish executive had taken no precaution to issue proper instructions to the Irish police for the proper observance of the respect of the House of Commons.—On December 4 Lord Randolph Churchill made an attack on the government in the matter of sending troops to Suakin. He said that the number of British soldiers was totally inadequate. The secretary for War defended the government's course, and Lord Randolph's motion was thrown out by a vote of 231 to 189. Subsequently, however, the force at Suakin was increased to 6,500 men.—When Parliament reassembled on February 21, the speech from the throne set forth that early attention

would be asked to measures for the development of the material resources of Ireland and for amending the constitution of the various tribunals having jurisdiction over real property in Ireland. "The statutes recently passed for the restoration of order and confidence in Ireland," it was stated, "have already been attended with salutary results." Mr. Morley at once gave notice that he would introduce an amendment to the address in reply to the Queen's speech, condemning the administration of the law in Ireland as harsh, unjust and oppressive, and asking that measures be adopted to content the Irish and re-establish a real union of Great Britain and Ireland. A prolonged debate ensued. On March 1 Mr. Morley's motion was rejected—339 to 260.—A motion to reduce Mr. Balfour's salary by £500 was rejected on March 21 by a vote of 222 to 211.—Lord George Hamilton, first lord of the Treasury, stated in the House of Commons on March 7 that the government proposed to build eight first-class men of war of 14,000 tons each and two of 9,000 tons, nine first-class cruisers and twenty-nine smaller cruisers. The total tonnage of these vessels would be 318,000 and the cost £21,500,000. He asked for an appropriation of £10,000,000 from the consolidated fund and proposed that the remainder should be provided for in the ordinary estimates. He promised that the Admiralty's programme should be executed in four years and a half.—In the House of Commons on March 19 Sir James Fergusson, parliamentary secretary for the Foreign office, announced that serious questions had arisen between England and the Sultan of Morocco and that a portion of the Channel squadron had been ordered to Tangier.—A resolution was adopted by the House on March 26 declaring that the government should ascertain whether the powers were willing to meet in conference to discuss the question of the suppression of the slave trade.—The budget was introduced by Mr. Goschen, Chancellor of the Exchequer, on April 15. The revenue of the year exceeded the estimate of the previous budget by £1,645,000; the expenditures were £941,000 less than the estimate; leaving a surplus of £2,586,000. The estimate for the current year shows: revenue, £85,050,000; expenditures, £86,967,000.—A good deal of excitement was caused in London during the autumn by the commission of a number of mysterious and peculiarly fiendish murders in the Whitechapel district, and severe criticisms were passed upon the police for their inability to discover the murderer. As a result General Sir Charles Warren, chief of the metropolitan police, resigned, and it was thought at one time that the Home secretary would be compelled to resign.—A great demonstration in honor of Mr. Gladstone was made in Birmingham on the occasion of his visit to that city on November 5. He made several speeches, in which he said that the Irish question was really the English, Scotch and Welsh question, and until the question was settled the country would know neither solid peace nor effectual progress.—Of the 990 non-Episcopal Protestant ministers in Ireland, 864 signed an anti-Home-rule address, which was presented to Lord Salisbury and Lord Hartington on November 14. Of the minority who declined to sign, it was stated that only eight were Home-rulers.—Lord Salisbury, speaking at Edinburgh at the end of November, said that he believed that Scotland was beginning to realize the dangers of Gladstonianism and becoming Unionist. He insisted that there was growing in Mr. Gladstone's mind a distinct idea

of the entire separation of Ireland. — **Parliamentary elections.** The most significant of the by-elections that have been held was that in the Kennington division of Lambeth (London) on March 15. It resulted in a victory for the Gladstonian candidate by a majority of 631, while at the previous election the Conservatives won by 430 votes. Other elections which showed Gladstonian gains were those in Holborn, Maidstone, Dewsbury, Govan, Perthshire and Gorton, while there were conservative gains in Colchester, Enfield and Stockton. — It was given out on March 29 that the cabinet had decided to propose at the next session of Parliament a land-purchase scheme for Ireland, and would also introduce in 1891 an Irish local-government bill, providing for extensive changes in the management of internal affairs in Ireland. — England lost one of its greatest orators and men, and the United States a true friend, by the death of **John Bright**, which occurred on March 27. He had been in feeble health for some time. John Albert Bright was elected to succeed his father as member of Parliament for the central division of Birmingham. — Laurence Oliphant, the well-known writer, died on December 23.

AFFAIRS IN IRELAND. — Since the closing of the last RECORD there has been no change in the government's policy toward Ireland. A considerable number of members of Parliament, priests, and others have been arrested under the provisions of the Crimes act and sentenced for longer or shorter terms of imprisonment. As in the previous year, the case of William O'Brien, M.P., created the greatest stir. During his trial he escaped from the court room. Nevertheless the trial proceeded, and on January 25 he was sentenced for four months. He eluded the police for several days, but was arrested at Manchester on January 29. On being taken back to Ireland he was thrown into Clonmel jail, where he refused to put on the prison garb. His clothing was forcibly removed and his beard shaved off. He made a desperate resistance and was thoroughly exhausted. Mr. Balfour was appealed to in behalf of O'Brien, and subsequently the prison doctor guaranteed that no further attempt would be made to force the prisoner to don the prison garb. A mass meeting was held at Phoenix park, Dublin, February 3, to denounce the treatment to which O'Brien was subjected; it was announced that a memorial had been signed by four archbishops and a majority of the bishops, calling upon the government to discontinue proceedings that endangered the prisoner's life. O'Brien's clothes were returned to him on February 5, when his condition was such that he had to be removed to the infirmary connected with the jail. On February 10 a great gathering took place in Hyde park, London, to denounce the government's coercive measures toward Ireland, and to express sympathy with O'Brien. In the meantime several summons had been served on O'Brien for alleged illegal speeches. On February 11 he was removed to the jail at Tralee. On the 18th he was arraigned under the last summons issued against him and sentenced for six months. A few days later he was taken to Galway jail. It was announced on March 13 that the government had decided to abandon the prosecution of O'Brien for conspiracy. — While trying to arrest Father McFadden at Gweedore on February 3, Police Inspector Martin was killed. The priest claimed that he used all his influence with the people to induce them to desist from rioting. Many arrests were made in connection with the affair. — Another rescript was sent by the Pope to the

Irish bishops in November. It ordered them to execute actively the former rescript, which condemned boycotting and the plan of campaign.

BRITISH COLONIES.—The agitation in **Canada** regarding annexation to the United States, or commercial union with it, has been industriously carried on, but without definite results. The sentiment in favor of annexation appears to be increasing. In an address to French citizens on November 13 the governor-general, Lord Stanley, spoke squarely in opposition to this sentiment, referring to the schemes for annexation as intrigues. In the House of Commons, on February 26, Mr. Laurier, the leader of the opposition, supported with a strong speech a motion to enter into negotiations with the United States and that the *modus vivendi* in reference to the fisheries be continued. In his reply, Sir John MacDonald said that the Dominion heartily favored enlarged trade relations with the American people. Several days later the motion was defeated—yeas 65, nays 108. On March 5 Sir Richard Cartwright offered a resolution stating that it was expedient that steps should be taken to ascertain on what terms and conditions arrangements could be effected with the United States for securing full and unrestricted reciprocity. This was defeated by the supporters of the government on March 19.—Parliament was opened on January 31. In his speech the governor-general expressed regret at the failure of the Fisheries treaty in the United States Senate, and said that Canada would continue to maintain her rights under the convention of 1818.—On February 8 the estimates of the national expenditure were laid before Parliament. The amount asked for the ordinary expenditures was \$35,410,280, as against \$36,739,257 for the previous year. In his budget speech on March 5 Mr. Foster, minister of Finance, said that the debt of Canada was \$236,000,000, an increase of 120 per cent in fourteen years. He anticipated a surplus of \$6,000,000 in the next three years.—An important measure, known as the Weldon Extradition bill, was passed in April. It provides for the extradition of embezzlers, defaulters, *etc.*, but was amended so as not to be retroactive.—The cabinet council decided on March 23 to issue *modus-vivendi* licenses; but all of them are to expire on December 31, 1889.—John Henry Pope, minister of Railways and Canals, died on April 1.—Sir Anthony Musgrave, governor of **Queensland**, died early in October. Henry Arthur Blake, governor of Newfoundland, was appointed to succeed him. The appointment was violently opposed by the government and people of the colony, and after a brief interval Sir Henry Norman was appointed to the vacant office. Mr. Blake was afterwards made governor of Jamaica.—Sir Thomas McIlwraith resigned the premiership of Queensland in November, and Mr. Morehead, colonial secretary, became premier.—The elections in **New South Wales** in February showed that forty ministerialists and thirty-nine members of the opposition had been elected. In March the ministry was defeated on the question of protection and resigned.—Lord Lansdowne, the new viceroy of **India**, arrived at Bombay on December 3.

FRANCE.—The Chambers met on October 15 and M. Floquet, the premier, at once introduced a bill for the **revision of the constitution**. His plan made the term of senators three years instead of nine, and that of deputies three years instead of four. It took away from the Senate the power of absolutely rejecting any bill originating in the lower Chamber, and substituted

therefor a "suspensive veto" to expire in two years. It also provided for a fixed term for the members of the ministry. The matter was referred to a committee, which decided in favor of revision by a special constituent assembly. This action was in the nature of an offset to the rising tide of Boulangism. **The Boulangist movement**, however, continued to increase in force. General Boulanger announced himself as a candidate for a vacancy in the department of the Seine (Paris). The governmental party strained every nerve to defeat him, but the election on January 27 resulted in his election by a plurality of 81,550 (his majority being 54,432). During the canvass he had repeatedly denied that he aimed at a dictatorship, and protested fidelity to the Republic. Immediately after the election he wrote a letter thanking the electors of the Seine and declaring that the Chamber had nothing before it but dissolution. One result of Boulanger's victory was that the ministers tendered their resignations, which President Carnot refused to accept. In order to arrest the progress of Boulangism, Premier Floquet brought forward a bill establishing the *scrutin d'arrondissement* in place of the *scrutin de liste*, under which Boulanger had secured such demonstrations of popular support. — On February 4 M. Ferrouillat, minister of Justice, resigned; he was succeeded by M. Guyot-Dessaigne. — General Boulanger announced on February 8 that his programme included the adoption of the American constitution, but with a ten-years' term for the President; the formation of a council of state to prepare and submit laws to a non-deliberative national council of 500 members, half to be elected by universal suffrage and half to be chosen by the provinces; and the granting of limited local government to the provinces. — On February 11 the *Scrutin-d'Arrondissement* bill was passed in the Chamber by a vote of 268 to 222. The Senate adopted it on the 13th by a vote of 228 to 52. — The question of the revision of the constitution came up in the Chamber on February 14, when a motion was made that the debate be adjourned. Despite the opposition of the government, the motion was adopted by a vote of 307 to 218. M. Floquet at once announced that the **ministry would resign**, and the resignations were immediately forwarded to President Carnot. General Boulanger issued a manifesto, claiming credit for the overthrow of the ministry and saying that it was a step toward the dissolution of the Chamber and the convocation of a constituent assembly. The passage of the *Scrutin-d'Arrondissement* bill he pronounced a blow to universal suffrage. The work of forming a cabinet was at first entrusted to M. Méline, president of the Chamber of Deputies, but was abandoned by him after a few days. M. Tirard was then summoned to undertake the task. **The new ministry** was announced on February 21 as follows: Premier and minister of Commerce, Tirard; War, de Freycinet; Interior, Constans; Finance, Rouvier; Foreign Affairs, Spuller; Justice, Thévenet; Education, Fallières; Agriculture, Faye; Public Works, Yves-Guyot; Marine, Admiral Jaurès. M. Goblet refused to join the new cabinet, which was a coalition of Opportunists and Radicals. The ministerial declaration asserted that it was their imperative duty to take all measures necessary to maintain order and respect for the Republic by counteracting or, if needful, repressing factious enterprises. — The first action taken by the new ministry toward the suppression of Boulangism was a decision on February 28

to suppress the Patriotic league. This was resolved on because of the league's fierce denunciation of the government's course in the matter of the bombardment of Sagallo. [See Russia.] Several members of the league were arrested and the prefects of the various departments were directed to prevent forcibly, if necessary, meetings of committees of the league. On March 2 a motion condemning the prosecution of the league was rejected by the Chamber of Deputies and a vote of confidence in the government was adopted — 347 to 220. Among the accused members of the league were Senator Naquet and Deputies Laguerre, Laisant and Turquet, and after acrimonious debates it was decided to prosecute them. — On March 29 the cabinet unanimously resolved to prosecute **General Boulanger** for attempting to destroy the Republic. The Senate by a vote of 207 to 63 organized itself as a high court of justice. Fearing arrest, Boulanger fled to Brussels, whence he sent forth a manifesto stating that he would not submit to a trial by the Senate, but was willing to be tried before magistrates or a jury. The Chamber of Deputies on April 4 voted (355 to 203) in favor of prosecuting Boulanger for conspiracy to overthrow the established government. On April 5 General Boulanger issued another manifesto, in which he declared that all the acts imputed to him were well known when he was appointed minister of War, and that, therefore, his colleagues were equally guilty. — The correctional tribunal on April 6 acquitted Senator Naquet, Deputies Laguerre, Laisant and Turquet and other leaders of the Patriotic league of the charge of belonging to a secret society, but fined them for belonging to a society not authorized by law. — **The trial of Boulanger** was begun in the Senate on April 12. A commission, M. Merlin president, was appointed to conduct the trial. It was found necessary to examine 10,320 documents bearing on the case. On April 20 Boulanger was informed that his presence in Brussels was not acceptable, and he proceeded to London. — Early in October President Carnot issued a decree requiring the registration of foreigners taking up their residence in France. The decree was not enforced very strictly. — At the end of October the cabinet approved the scheme of M. Peytral, minister of Finance, for the imposition of an income tax. — The budget was adopted early in December, the estimates being fixed at 138,800,000 francs. The estimates for 1890, presented on February 11, showed an increase in expenses over 1889 of 25,000,000 francs. — Important action was taken by the Tirard cabinet on March 7, when the decree of exile against the Duc d'Aumale was rescinded. This action was approved by the Chamber of Deputies by a vote of 316 to 147. — Admiral Jaurès, minister of Marine, died on March 13. He was succeeded by Admiral Krantz, who held the same office in the Floquet cabinet.

GERMANY. — Emperor William visited Vienna and Rome early in October. At Rome he was received by King Humbert and afterwards held an interview with the Pope. — The Imperial Diet reassembled on November 22, the Emperor opening the session. In his speech he said that his efforts had been unceasing to promote peace, and that he should continue to do all in his power in this direction. When the Diet was opened for business the budget was presented. It amounted to 949,103,907 marks. It was proposed to construct several new war-ships, and there was an increase in the army expenditures of 7,000,000 marks. — There was considerable discussion in

January over a bill for the protection of German interests in east Africa and the suppression of the slave trade. Favorable action was taken. — Dr. Geffcken, who was indicted for furnishing for publication extracts from the diary of Emperor Frederick, remained in custody until January 4, when the indictment against him was dismissed by the Supreme Court of the Empire. In consequence of attacks in the public press, the government published the indictment as well as the decision of the Supreme Court. The indictment asserted that various passages in the published diary were prejudicial to the internal and foreign relations of the Imperial government. This view was sustained by the court, but Dr. Geffcken was acquitted because it was not shown that he was "conscious" of these prejudicial results. In consequence of the publication of the indictment, Dr. Friedberg resigned the office of Prussian minister of Justice. Dr. von Schelling, secretary of State of the Imperial office of Justice, succeeded Dr. Friedberg, and Herr von Puttkamer replaced Dr. von Schelling. Subsequently General von Schellendorff, Prussian minister of War, resigned; and on April 10 it was announced that General von Verdy du Vernois had been appointed in his stead.

RUSSIA. — It was announced on October 7 that the government had authorized the Imperial bank to make a fresh issue of 15,000,000 rubles in temporary credit notes. — The fiftieth anniversary of the entrance of M. de Giers, minister of Foreign Affairs, into the public service was celebrated on October 15. — The Czar and Czarina, while making a tour in Southern Russia, had a narrow escape from death on October 29, when an attempt was made to destroy their railway train. Both were hurt, and the Czarina suffered severely from nervous shock. They returned to St. Petersburg on November 4. Admiral Possiet, minister of Railways, was speedily dismissed in consequence of the mishap to the train, and was succeeded by Prince Imeretinsky, president of the military tribunal. — On December 4 it was made known that there was a surplus of 56,000,000 rubles in the treasury. — The budget for 1889 showed a surplus of 4,500,000 rubles. — Some **friction between Russia and France** was caused in March by a filibustering expedition on the Red Sea led by a Russian adventurer named Atchinoff. The intention was to proceed against the Italians on the Abyssinian frontier. Atchinoff, by mistake, landed at Obock on French territory, occupied a fort called Sagallo, and raised the Russian flag. The French commander attacked the fort and compelled the garrison to surrender. The Russian government disclaimed responsibility for the expedition, but in Paris the bombardment of the fort was considered a blunder, and the Chamber of Deputies adopted a resolution expressing its good feeling for the Russian people. — Various rumors of attempts to assassinate the Czar were circulated in March and April. The latest, on April 19, announced the discovery of a plot which was to be carried out while the Czar was attending the funeral of General Paucker, minister of Roads.

ITALY. — General Viale, minister of War, stated in the Chamber of Deputies, on November 22, that railway arrangements had been completed for mobilizing the army; in case of mobilization, ordinary business would be suspended and the military would assume control of the railways. On December 1 the government asked for supplementary credits of 109,000,000 *lire* for the army and 27,000,000 *lire* for the navy. — In regard to **the re-**

lations of France and Italy. Prime Minister Crispi said in the Senate, December 6, that there was nothing to justify the supposition that a war was probable or near; nevertheless Italy could not think of disarming, but, on the contrary, must labor to increase her armaments. — On December 22 the Chamber of Deputies, by a vote of 175 to 32, passed a bill authorizing a credit of 145,000,000 *lire* for defences. At this time it was announced that Signor Magliani, minister of Finance, had resigned. — King Humbert, on January 1, received the members of the Chamber, to whom he said: "It is my earnest wish to preserve peace, and it is my belief that for this year peace is assured." He repeated this declaration in his speech on the opening of Parliament on January 28. — It was announced in the Chamber on February 3 that the budget showed a deficit of nearly 200,000,000 *lire*. Signor Peruzzi, minister of the Treasury, said it was estimated that the budget for 1890 would show a deficit of 90,000,000 *lire*; to meet this, retrenchment would be necessary, and also the imposition of new taxes. — Speaking on February 5, Signor Crispi defended the policy of the government, and said that Italy could not disarm while throughout Europe armaments were being pushed forward with redoubled activity. — Early in February riots occurred among the unemployed in Rome. On the 16th, in the course of a debate on this subject, a motion expressing confidence in the Crispi ministry was passed—247 to 151. — On February 28 **the ministry resigned** in order to avoid the hostile vote which seemed inevitable on the government measure providing for increased taxation. Signor Crispi was at once entrusted with the duty of forming a new cabinet. The new cabinet was announced on March 7 as follows: President of the Council, minister of the Interior, and minister of Foreign Affairs, Crispi; Finance, Doda; Treasury, Zioletti; Justice and Ecclesiastical Affairs, Zanardelli; War, General Viale; Marine, Brin; Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, Miceli; Public Works, Finali; Posts and Telegraphs, Lacava. Of the new ministry, Crispi, Viale, Brin, Miceli and Zanardelli retain the portfolios held by them in the previous cabinet. — The prime minister stated in the Chamber on April 5 that the death of King John of Abyssinia would enable Italy to extend her possessions in that country.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY. — On January 30 Crown Prince Rudolph Francis Charles Joseph took his own life. Conflicting accounts of the matter were circulated, and various explanations appeared in non-Austrian newspapers. The truth appears to be that he had a *liaison* with a certain Baroness Vetsera and that they decided to die together. It was officially stated that the autopsy showed that the Crown Prince was insane. It was announced that the succession to the throne would fall upon Emperor Francis Joseph's nephew, Francis. — The fortieth anniversary of the Emperor's accession to the throne was celebrated on December 2. — A new military bill, introduced by Count Welserheimb, minister of War, in November, aroused much opposition in both halves of the empire, but especially in Hungary. On February 17 there was a demonstration against the bill at Pesth in which 30,000 persons took part. Some concessions were made by the government, and the bill was finally passed. — The Hungarian Treasury returns for 1888 showed an increase in revenue for the year of 26,464,221 florins. — Herr Fabinyi, Hungarian minister of Justice, retired in March on account of ill health.

SPAIN.—It was decided by the cabinet in October to summon the Cortes to consider the question of reforms in the army. The Cortes was opened on November 30. Shortly afterwards a cabinet crisis was precipitated by the election of eight Conservatives and Protectionists as members of the budget committee, and on December 8 the entire cabinet resigned. **A new ministry** was formed by Señor Sagasta as follows: Premier, Sagasta; minister of Foreign Affairs, Armijo; Finance, Gonzalez; Interior, Capdepon; Justice, Canalejas; Commerce, Xiquena; War, General Chinchilla; Marine, Admiral Arias; Colonies, Becerra. This cabinet was looked on as weaker than its predecessor. Premier Sagasta announced in the Chamber of Deputies that the former policy of the government would be continued.—An attempt to blow up the royal palace at Madrid was made on January 8, but no serious damage was done.—Queen Christina, in February, signed a decree appointing General Salamanca captain general of Cuba.—On February 16 Señor Sagasta created a sensation in the Cortes by advocating a large reduction of the army estimates in order to bring about a reduction of taxation, without reversing the Liberal party's free-trade policy. He declared that the time had come when Spain must devote her attention to economical matters in preference to military and naval affairs, and that for a nation that harbored no warlike designs armaments were not needed.—In the Senate on March 20 the minister of the Interior, in reply to a question, said that there was no intention of selling Cuba to the United States, and that there was not enough money in the world to buy any portion of Spanish territory.—The budget was presented by Señor Gonzalez on May 1. It shows a revenue of about 800,000,000 *pesetas* and expenditures of about the same amount.

OTHER EUROPEAN STATES.—The marriage of King Milan, of **Servia**, and Queen Natalie, was dissolved by the church in October, in spite of the Queen's protest. Toward the end of that month the King issued a proclamation declaring that a new constitution was necessary. The elections in November for members of the Skuptschina resulted in the return of a Radical majority of 40. The new constitution was drawn up by a special commission. It declared the kingdom hereditary, with popular representation. The King endeavored to have it modified in the direction of conservatism, but failed; new elections were ordered, which resulted in a Radical majority of about 200. When the Skuptschina was opened on December 28 some concessions were offered by the King, but as the Radicals insisted on extensive constitutional changes the King declared that unless his proposals were accepted he would dissolve the body and rule as he chose. Finally a compromise constitution was approved—494 to 73. The ministry then resigned. On March 6 King Milan issued a decree **abdicated the throne** in favor of his son, Alexander, aged 13, and appointing Iovan Ristics and Generals Protics and Belimarkovics Regents during the youth's minority. The Regents issued a proclamation setting forth that they would endeavor to cultivate friendly relations with all powers, inaugurate a constitutional régime and place the finances of the country on a sound basis. A new (Radical) cabinet was constituted under the premiership of M. Gruics.—The **Rumanian** elections in October resulted in a defeat of the Liberals and a strengthening of the Conservative (Russophil) party. The Parliament was opened on November 13 by the King, who said

that the government's foreign relations were absolutely satisfactory. A new ministry was announced on November 24, under the premiership of M. Rosetti. Early in April this cabinet resigned and was reorganized (April 10) under the premiership of M. Catargi. — The **Bulgarian** Sobranye was opened on October 27, when Prince Ferdinand congratulated the country on its tranquil state. It was stated in March that the Czar had declared that he would not interfere forcibly with Bulgaria, the retention or expulsion of Ferdinand being an internal affair. — The twenty-fifth anniversary of King Christian's accession to the throne of **Denmark** was celebrated on November 15. The Rigsdag was closed on April 1, the houses having reached no agreement upon the budget. — M. Hertenstein, President of **Switzerland**, died in November; M. Hammer was elected President in December, and M. Ruchonnet Vice-President. — The formal announcement was made on March 26 that the King of the **Netherlands** had become incapacitated for carrying on the government, and his infant daughter was declared Regent under the guardianship of the ministry. In **Luxemburg** the Regency was assumed by Duke Adolf of Nassau. The King, however, improved in health, and on May 1 it was made known that he would resume the government of the Netherlands and of Luxemburg.

MEXICO. — President Diaz's third term began on December 1. In his message to Congress in April he said that the gradual increase of the revenue, the regularity in payments and the confidence felt abroad in respect to the solvency of the Republic constituted a financial situation which, if it could not be termed prosperous, differed very favorably from that which during long years obstructed and paralyzed the well-being of the nation. — Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada, formerly President of Mexico, died in New York on April 21.

PANAMA CANAL. — In spite of earnest appeals on the part of M. de Lesseps, the Panama canal loan was not taken in December, and the **collapse of the company** and the abandonment of work on the canal followed. The matter was brought before the French cabinet on December 13, and on the following day a bill was introduced in the Chamber of Deputies authorizing the postponement for three months of the company's liabilities. The bill was rejected — 262 to 188. General Boulanger sent a message of sympathy to de Lesseps, and said that the rejection of the bill was the crowning sin of the Chamber. The attempts to form a new company failed, and by the beginning of the year it became evident that the enterprise could not be continued, and the contractors refused to continue work. It was expected that trouble would result from the enforced idleness of a large number of workmen on the Isthmus, but good order was maintained. On March 7, in the Chamber of Deputies, Premier Tirard said that the government would do its utmost for the success of the canal. — The United States Senate on January 7 adopted a resolution declaring that the government would look with **serious concern and disapproval** upon any connection of any European government with the construction or control of any ship canal across the Isthmus of Darien or across Central America, and must regard any such connection or control as injurious to the just rights and interests of the United States and as a menace to their welfare; and the President was requested to communicate this expression of the views of the government of the United States to the governments

of the countries of Europe. The House of Representatives took no action in the matter.

NICARAGUA CANAL.—A bill incorporating the Nicaragua Canal company was passed by the Vermont legislature on November 13. It was a duplicate of the act introduced in the United States Senate by Senator Edmunds. This was passed by both houses of Congress in an amended form in February, and was subsequently signed by the President. It was decided to proceed with the construction of the canal as speedily as possible.

AFRICA.—Doubt as to the fate of **Henry M. Stanley** was set at rest on December 20, when a despatch was received in London stating that word had reached the west coast to the effect that Stanley had arrived on the Aruwimi. He reached there on August 17, having returned from his visit to Emin Pacha, whom he left eighty-two days previously on the Nyanza. Letters containing full details of his terrible march were received early in April. He found Emin well situated and unwilling to leave Wadelai. Stanley's plan was to return to Emin and induce him, if possible, to abandon his post in the heart of Africa. Of his movements since August 27 last nothing is yet known, although vague reports have come that Stanley and Emin are marching toward Zanibar with several thousand men, women and children, and a large quantity of ivory. — There was a brisk battle at **Suakin** on December 20, when the combined British and native forces made an attack on the rebels and routed them. The British lost only four men, while the Arab loss was 400. — There has been considerable trouble in **East Africa**, growing out of the domineering conduct of the German East-African company toward the natives and the attempt of the Germans to break up the slave trade. An insurrection of the natives took place in September and a number of missionaries and others were killed. — A revolution occurred in **Uganda** in October, when King Mwanga was deposed and his brother, Kiwewa, was enthroned in his stead. — Advices received in Rome on April 3 stated that King John, of **Abyssinia**, had been defeated and killed in a battle with the forces led by the dervish Mettema. He had been on the throne since 1872. His successor was reported to be Dagiak Mangascia.

ASIA. — The **new constitution of Japan** was promulgated on February 11. It establishes a House of Peers, partly hereditary, partly elective and partly nominated by the Mikado, and an elective House of Commons of 300 members. The right of suffrage is given to all men of the age of twenty-five and over who pay taxes to the amount of \$25 yearly. Liberty of religion, freedom of speech and the right of public meeting are established. The constitution is modelled after that of Germany. The Mikado remains the source of all law, but his functions are to be exercised with the sanction of the imperial Parliament. — About the middle of October it was made known that the **Afghan** rebellion was ended and that the Ameer's authority was supreme over the whole of Afghan Turkestan. — Metrieu, Emperor of **Anam**, died on January 27; he was succeeded by his son, a lad of ten, and a regency was established. — The first railway in **China** was officially opened on November 9.

SOUTH AMERICA. — In February a law was passed by **Chili** excluding Chinese immigrants from the country. All other immigrants, however, are

welcomed, and the government was authorized to expend \$500,000 to promote such immigration. — The **Peruvian** ministry resigned early in March and a new cabinet was formed. A month later this cabinet resigned on account of the impossibility of conciliating the majority in Congress regarding any arrangement for the payment of Peruvian bondholders.

HAYTI. — On October 17 General François Denys Légitime was elected President of Hayti by the National Assembly. Several towns, being in the hands of the rebels under General Hyppolite, were declared closed to commerce. In the latter part of October the American steamer *Haytian Republic* was seized by a Haytian gunboat on the charge of attempting to force a blockade. The United States government considered this action illegal and despatched two naval vessels to Hayti. The *Haytian Republic* was thereupon surrendered. The rebellion in the Republic is still in progress, although President Légitime sent a despatch to the European governments early in March stating that it had been crushed. — Ex-President Salomon died in Paris on October 19.

SAMOA. — During the whole of the period under review, affairs in Samoa have attracted a large share of attention. There are many German residents there and the Germans have manifested a desire to gain the ascendancy in the islands, which are, perhaps, chiefly important to the United States and Great Britain as a coaling station. Some time ago the Germans seized King Malietoa and carried him to a distant island, setting up Tamasese in his place. In the fall a large party of natives under Mataafa rebelled. They won several victories over Tamasese, when the Germans took up the cause of the latter and declared the islands under martial law. The United States sent war-ships to Samoa to protect American residents. Germany also sent war-vessels, and for a time a conflict seemed imminent. There has been a good deal of diplomatic correspondence on the Samoan question, and at length it was agreed that a conference to consider and settle it, which was begun at Washington a few years ago, should be resumed at Berlin. The conference opened on April 29. The United States is represented by John A. Kasson, William Walter Phelps, and George H. Bates; Germany by Count Herbert Bismarck and Dr. Krauel; and England by Sir Edward B. Malet, British ambassador at Berlin, Mr. Scott, British minister at Berne, and Mr. Crowe. Before the conference began, Prince Bismarck repudiated the action of the German consul at Samoa, by whose direction the German men-of-war fired upon the natives. The liberation of Malietoa was announced on May 1, it being stated that he had apologized. This was accepted as a prelude to his reinstatement as King. — While the war-ships of the three governments were lying in the harbor of Apia on March 15 a tremendous hurricane broke upon the islands. Three American vessels, the *Trenton*, *Vandalia* and *Nipsic*, were cast upon the beach and the two first named were totally lost. The *Nipsic* lost seven men and the *Vandalia* four officers and thirty-nine men. Two German vessels, the *Adler* and *Eber*, were also destroyed, and a third, the *Olga*, was stranded. The German losses were ninety-six. The English man-of-war *Calliope* put to sea and was thus saved.

ARCHIE EMERSON PALMER.